

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

23

Application Number	10/696,446
Filing Date	October 29, 2003
First Named Inventor	Donald H. Gehring
Art Unit	3617
Examiner Name	Sotelo, Jesus D.
Attorney Docket Number	032531.004

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement

<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers

<input type="checkbox"/> Petition
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation
<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address
<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund
<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
1. Amendment and Response to 09/03/04 Office Action;
2. Fee Transmittal - charging fee to deposit account; and
3. Postcard. |
|---|--|--|

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Bracewell & Patterson, LLP		
Signature	<i>James E. Bradley</i>		
Printed name	James E. Bradley		
Date	Dec 3, 2004	Reg. No.	27,536

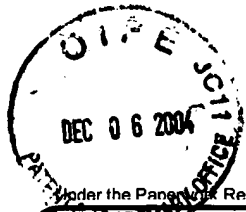
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	<i>Dora Rios</i>		
Typed or printed name	Dora Rios	Date	12-03-2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Effective on 10/01/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

FEE TRANSMITTAL

For FY 2005

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)
212

Complete if Known

Application Number	107696,446
Filing Date	October 29, 2003
First Named Inventor	Donald H. Gehring
Examiner Name	Sotelo, Jesus D.
Art Unit	3617
Attorney Docket No.	032531.004

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order

☒ Deposit Account ☐ None

Deposit Account Number: 50-0259

Deposit Account Name: Bracewell & Patterson

The Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

- ☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below
- ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
- ☐ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
- ☐ Credit any overpayments

to the above-identified deposit account.

☐ Other (please identify):

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
Utility Filing Fee	790	395	
Design Filing Fee	350	175	
Plant Filing Fee	550	275	
Reissue Filing Fee	790	395	
Provisional Filing Fee	160	80	
Subtotal (1) \$			0

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES		Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Fee Description			
Each claim over 20		18	9
Each independent claim over 3		88	44
Multiple dependent claims		300	150
For Reissues, each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent		18	9
For Reissues, each independent claim more than in the original patent		88	44
Total Claims	24		
Extra Claims	4		
Fee (\$)	9		
Fee Paid (\$)	36		
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20			
Indep. Claims	7		
Extra Claims	4		
Fee (\$)	44		
Fee Paid (\$)	176		
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3			
Multiple Dependent Claims			
Fee (\$)			
Fee Paid (\$)			
Subtotal (2) \$			212

3. OTHER FEES

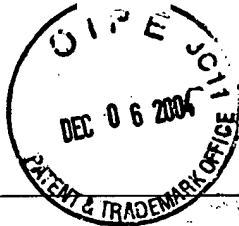
Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
1-month extension of time	110	55	
2-month extension of time	430	215	
3-month extension of time	980	490	
4-month extension of time	1,530	765	
5-month extension of time	2,080	1,040	
Information disclosure stmt. fee	180	180	
37 CFR 1.17(q) processing fee	50	50	
Non-English specification	130	130	
Notice of Appeal	340	170	
Filing a brief in support of appeal	340	170	
Request for oral hearing	300	150	
Other:			
Subtotal (3) \$			0

SUBMITTED BY

Signature	James E. Bradley	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent):	27,536	Telephone	713-221-3301
Name (Print/Type)	James E. Bradley	Date	Dec 3, 2004		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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17a

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

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12-07-2004

Date

Dora Rios

Dora Rios

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Donald H. Gehring

Serial No.: 10/696,446

Filed: October 29, 2003

FOR: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF
CONSTRUCTING OFFSHORE
PLATFORMS

)
) Confirmation No. 5986
)

) Examiner: Sotelo, Jesus D.
)

) Group Art Unit: 3617
)

) Attorney Docket No. 32531.004
)
)

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1415
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 3, 2004, please enter the following amendments to the specification, claims, and remarks as follows.

12/07/2004 HALI11 00000043 500259 10696446

01 FC:2201 176.00 DA
02 FC:2202 36.00 DA